

Agenda Steering 6 June 2017 (10 AM CDT)

On call: CKTuggle, EGiuffra, GPlastow, GTosser-Klopp, HCheng, PHarrison, SWhite, JReecy

Minutes from 11 Apr 2017 call- review

The first comment was from Peter; regarding the comment from Chris on the survey being taken. The BDA is still collecting responses, and will report back at next call. Minutes approved

Regarding the questions posed by Elisabetta in the BDA notes: It appears that the Github links are in a private part of Confluence. Chris/Peter suggested that the BDA webpage on FAANG.org could point to the Github? Chris and Jim will work with Peter and Zhiliang on this. Minutes approved as amended (removing comments).

Announcements

Reports from Standing Committee Chairs

- *Animals/Samples/Assays: reported by Elisabetta*

The website has been updated, including a statement of the purpose of the committee. The next conference call is scheduled for June 20. This call will focus on the status of protocols, whether they have been standardized, and how they are being presented on the website.

- *Metadata and Data Sharing: provided by Peter*

There have been no calls since the last Steering Call. There is a discussion whether to have the next call before or at the ISAG meeting.

There are now 8733 samples submitted to BioSamples and 6 separate projects with submissions to the European Nucleotide Archive.

The Metadata standards have been recently updated to include RBBS and WGS datasets, as well as some more minor amendments that are all documented on the github pages <https://github.com/FAANG/faang-metadata/releases>

A new staff member starts in 2 weeks time to work in FAANG DCC.

There have only been 9 survey responses so far, although it seems that the main email advert was only released yesterday due to the issues with the email lists that Jim described. I have circulated the initial survey results to the steering committee.

FAANG DCC had its first strategic management advisory board meeting, the feedback from our advisors was positive.

The portal was discussed; a request was made to provide summary graphics on the data available, much like IHEC or similar data portals. Peter indicated this was very doable, and could be done fairly soon with the new staff person available. The portal will be linked to the FAANG.org website as well; Peter will discuss with Zhiliang. (Update: This has been accomplished- see home page of FAANG website- thanks Zhiliang and Peter!)

- *Bioinformatics and Data Analysis: Jim reporting*

- The pipelines are available at the Github, but as described above, some discussion took place to make these more accessible (in organization) from the FAANG.org site. Jim will take this to the committee for further discussion.

- Communication:

Future FAANG meetings

ISAG 2017

Laura Clarke agreed to give a 25 minute talk on the FAANG DCC. This will complete the FAANG workshop.

PAG 2018

Huajun indicated the schedule for the Workshop is set for Friday afternoon, starting at 1 and expected to go to about 5 PM.

Draft letter for AFRI FAANG applicants

A draft letter was provided and discussed as a way to provide a more standard letter of support for FAANG-related projects. This was discussed and approved in concept; Steering should also have a role in approving. Elisabetta will canvass Steering with a June 5 deadline, to try to make such letters available to people by the middle of next week (June 7).

We also discussed that the draft letter is relevant to data-creation projects, but less so for projects on data-analyses only.

Old Business

1. Monthly newsletters? *Any volunteers to provide content will be welcome.*
2. Further discussion on working together to foment increased opportunities for FAANG-related projects H2020, FFAR, etc.

New business

1. Letters of Support Decision

Elisabetta received some input from Steering Committee members and created a letter which she provided to several applicants for the large USDA AFRI opportunity. Elisabetta received a draft letter from Peter that would be applicable for data analysis-only projects, which she adapted to use for a letter of support for such projects.

We discussed whether this letter should be made available; we decided to put a notice on the FAANG.org website on directions on how to get a LOS.

Future Steering Committee calls

There was no interest in the Steering Committee meeting at the ISAG meeting. Chris will set up a Doodle scheduler to set up meeting for the Fall, starting no earlier than late August.